

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 07395 130923Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 DODE-00
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S E C R E T GENEVA 07395

EXDIS

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON PLENARY, MAY 12, 1978 (SALT TWO-1737)

REFS: A. SALT TWO-1741; B. SALT TWO-1742; C. SALT TWO-1744;
D. SALT TWO-1740 ,

1. AT MAY 12 PLENARY, I MADE STATEMENT (REF A) PRESENTING
NEW LANGUAGE FOR COMMON UNDERSTANDING TO ARTICLE XVI
DEFINING A SINGLE ICBM LAUNCH AND PROVIDING 60 MINUTE
TIME CRITERION FOR DEFINING MULTIPLE LAUNCHES. I ALSO
REITERATED U.S. POSITION THAT EACH SINGLE LAUNCH FROM AN
ICBM LAUNCHER DEPLOYMENT AREA, AS WELL AS ALL MULTIPLE
LAUNCHES, SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO ADVANCE NOTIFICATION.

2. SEMENOV IN HIS STATEMENT (REF B) TABLED SOVIET PROPOSAL
FOR DEFINITION OF NEW TYPES OF ICBMS WHICH ACCEPTS
SUBSTANCE OF U.S. PROPOSAL WITH CERTAIN NOTABLE
EXCEPTIONS INCLUDING INITIAL WEIGHT AND TOTAL IMPULSE OF
STAGES, FRACTIONATION, AND RESTRICTIONS ON CHANGES TO PBVS.

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FURTHER, HE REAFFIRMED SOVIET PROTOCOL PROPOSAL FOR
SLBMS, EXEMPTING TRIDENT I AND TYPHOON. PROPOSAL
REAFFIRMED SOVIET REQUIREMENT FOR AN EXEMPTION FOR ONE
NEW TYPE SINGLE RV ICBM. (SOVIET-PROPOSED LANGUAGE AT
REF C.)

3. IN POST-PLENARY, SEMENOV SAID THAT FIVE PERCENT IN
SOVIET-PROPOSED COMMON UNDERSTANDING REFERRED ONLY TO

TERM "DIFFERENT" AND DID NOT AFFECT OTHER PROVISIONS OF TREATY. HE SOLICITED REACTION TO SOVIET-PROPOSED DATA BASE FORMAT, STATING THAT THEY ENVISAGED EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BY CHIEFS OF DELEGATION AT TIME OF TREATY SIGNATURE. HE ALSO REFERRED TO SHCHUKIN - JOHNSON DINNER CONVERSATION (I.E., TYURATAM LAUNCHERS, PER REF D) AND SAID HE, SEMENOV, WOULD RETURN TO SUBJECT MORE FORMALLY.

4. RE NEW TYPES SHCHUKIN SAID INCLUSION OF IMPULSE CRITERION WAS REDUNDANT GIVEN PROVISION RE CHANGES IN FUEL TYPES. OMISSION OF FRACTIONATION LIMITS DID NOT IMPLY REJECTION AND SOVIETS WILL RETURN TO SUBJECT, POSSIBLY AT A DIFFERENT LEVEL. RE LAUNCH NOTIFICATION HE CRITICIZED 60 MINUTE CRITERION BUT AGREED THAT LAUNCHING OF TWO ICBMS FROM DIFFERENT AREAS IN SOVIET UNION WITHIN AN AGREED TIME INTERVAL COULD BE INCLUDED.

5. KRAMER-LEMON/BEKETOV BILATERAL. WHEN ASKED FOR HIS CONCERNS REGARDING CONVERSION OF AIRPLANES INTO CMCS, BEKETOV REPLIED "WHEN ANY COUNTRY CONVERTS MILITARY AIRPLANES FROM A CIVIL AIRCRAFT FLEET, IT REPRESENTS A CRITICAL SITUATION." IN THIS CONTEXT, HE IMPLIED THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT REPRESENTED POTENTIAL CRUISE MISSILE THREAT.

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6. NEXT PLENARY WILL BE WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 1978. EARLE

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Message Attributes

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